

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 06816 142258Z

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ACTION ARA-20

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, AR

SUBJ: MRS. LODGE CALLS ON MRS. PERON

1. AFTER OUR RETURN FROM LEAVE IN MID-AUGUST, MY WIFE SENT NOTE TO ISABLE DE PERON PASSING GREETINGS FROM MUTUAL FRIEND IN SPAIN. ISABLE RESPONDED BY INVITING FRANCESCA TO CALL. THIS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR AUG 31, BUT HAD TO BE POSTPONED DUE TO DEMONSTRATION PARADE IN PERONS HONOR THAT DAY. MORNING SEPT 13 ISABEL DE PERONS AIDE CALLED TO INVITE FRANCESCA TO TEA WITH MRS. PERON THAT AFTERNOON AT 5 PM. IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THIS IS FIRST MEETING OF ITS KIND MRS. PERON HAS HELD WITHWIFE OF A FOREIGN DIPLOMAT.

2. MRS. PERON WAS ACCOMPANIED BY ONE LADY, APPARENTLY AN AIDE. MY WIFE CHOSE TO GO ALONE. SHE REPORTS THAT MRS. PERON COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MORE CHARMING OR CORDIAL. SHE SAID SHE HAD CLOSELY FOLLOWED OUR ACTIVITIES IN MADRID AND HERE AND GREATLY ADMIRED OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS. SHE EXPRESSED HIGH REGARD FOR ME AS A DIPLOMAT WHO MUST BE RECOGNIZED BY MY COUNTRY AS A "TROUBLE-SHOOTER". SHE PRAISED MY WIFE'S ENERGETIC ASSISTANCE TO MANY CHARITIES. ON LATTER NOTE MRS PERON EXPRESSED REGRET THAT WE WERE LEAVING AS SHE WOULD HAVE LOOKED FORWARD TO COOPERATING WITH MRS LODGE IN CHARITABLE WORK. SHE SUGGESTED THAT IF WE COULD NOT STAY ON PERHAPS MY WIFE COULD RETURN AT A LATER DATE.

3. MRS LODGE PRESENTED ISABEL DE PERON WITH BOOK ON AMERICAN ART,
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NOTING THAT SHE HAD HEARD OF MRS PERONS INTEREST IN ART. SHE

ADDED THAT WHILE IT WAS POPULAR TO BELIEVE US EXPORTED ONLY LEVIS AND HOT DOGS, BOOK SUGGESTED A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT ASPECT OF US SOCIETY. FACT WAS US DEEPLY INTERESTED IN THE ARTS AND HAD PRODUCED MUCH OF WHICH IT EXTREMELY PROUD.

4. ON POLITICAL LEVEL, VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE ISABEL PERON MADE POINT THAT WOMEN HELD BALANCE OF POLITICAL POWER IN ARGENTINA S ELSEWHERE. SHE ALSO NOTED THAT THERE WRRE PERONIST CENTERS IN EVERY MAJOR COUNTRY IN WHICH ARGENTINES RESIDE. PERONISTS HOPE FOR CONSIDERABLE VOTING SUPPORT ON SEPT 23 FROM ARGENTINES RESIDING IN THE US.

5. MUCH OF REST OF MEETING, WHICH LASTED ALMOST AN HOUR AND A HALF, CONDUCTED ON INTIMATE NOTE AS LADIES EXCHANGED INFORMATION ON HOBBIES, EXERCISES AND FASHION DESIGN. AT MRS PERONS REQUEST MRS LODGE RECOMMENDED SEVERAL LOCAL COUTURIERS. ISABLE SAID SHE HAD BEEN BACK IN ARGENTINA TOO SHORT A TIME AND BEEN TOO BUSY OTHERWISE TO FIND GOOD ONE YET.
LODGE

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